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SOURCE

Soviet newspapers as indicated. (Information requested.)

NEW CANAL PLANNED:
NEW RIVER VESSELS BUILT

KARA KUNG CANAL PLANNED -- Pravda Ukrainy, No 151, 31 Jan 48

An expedition of the Turkmen Geological Administration has completed preliminary work on the layout of the first section of the future Kara Kum Canal. The hydrogeological conditions of the terrain between the Amu-Dary'a and Murgab Rivers, a distance of 450 kilometers, have been carefully studied. Over 7,500 meters of wells have been drilled, and over 1,000 analyses have been made.

In many sections along the course of the future canal, considerable reserves of fresh underground water have been discovered. This will provide the canal builders with water and will also make it possible to increase the number of wells for livestock raising.

Geologists are preparing to explore the course of the second section of the canal, between Mary and Archman stations, a distance of 600 kilometers.

LARGEST RAFT ON DNIPEPR RIVER -- Pravda Ukrainy, No 179, 30 Jul 48

At the beginning of July, the steamship Pobeda took in tow, at the mouth of the Angara River, a flotilla of rafts each carrying more than 51,000 cubic meters of timber destined for the industrial regions of the Far North. It is the first time that such a raft has been towed on the Yenisey. The raft is 600 meters long, 200 meters wide, and has a draft of 2.3 meters.

The most difficult spots on the river are the Osipenkovskiy Rapids, Shohaki, Sumarokovskiy Narrows (gorlo), Mel'nichnye rocks and the Konoshel' sandbanks. In these places the river has only a narrow channel with sharp turns and many undercurrents and rapids.

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BALTIC FLEET DIVERS PERFORM MANY SERVICES -- Sovetskaya Estoniya, No 179, 30 Jul 48

The activities of the Wreck and Rescue Service of the Baltic Fleet have become even more diversified and extensive since the war. Recently, divers installed the underwater section of the railroad bridge over a river, cleared away underwater obstructions at the hydroelectric power plant of the Kremgol'm Textile Mill and are doing underwater technical work on the head installations of the canals there.

ANOTHER STEAM TUG ON DNEPR -- Pravda Ukrainy, No 179, 30 Jul 48

The "Leninskaya Kuznitsa" Plant in Kiev has built another steam tug, the Ashkhabad. The new steamer, which began its first run on the Dnepr River 28 July is the fourth tug to be constructed by this plant. The first three were the Moskva, the Tbilisi, and the Baku.

BELORUSSIAN SHIPYARD TO LAUNCH FOUR BARGES -- Sovetskaya Belorussiya, No 151, 31 Jul 48

The Narovlya Shipyard, Poles's'ye Oblast, is scheduled to launch four 300-ton barges in October. Shipbuilders completed their July plan ahead of schedule in honor of the 30th anniversary of the Belorussian SSE.

KURILE SHIP-REPAIR PLANT DOES OWN CASTING -- Zarya Vostoka, No 152, 31 Jul 48

The Kinakai Ship-Repair Plant on Kunashiri Island has begun its own pig-iron casting. Until recently, iron casting for ship repairs was done in Vladivostok. Workers of the Kinakai Plant designed and built their own cupola furnace. Anchor winch parts, bearing housings, and other parts were recently cast for a schooner under construction at this plant.

RIGA SHIPYARDS MAKE ALL-METAL BARGES -- Sovetskaya Latvija, No 179, 30 Jul 48

The Riga Ship-Repair Plant of the Ministry of the Maritime Fleet USSR has just put out the last of the barges which the Government has ordered for the Far East. Production of the all-metal barges was introduced recently. Several dozen barges have been produced. The assignment was completed one month ahead of schedule.

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